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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Then he did not go there personally? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Why? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Because it was not necessary."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Did he realize then that this was not a serious matter—a man being on death-bed? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" In the first place he was not on death-bed; in the second place, the Inspector-General made enquiries."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Did the Inspector-General know that it was customary for Mr. Howe to have such complaints received against him wherever he went? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I refuse to answer a question pitched in that key, Sir."

Supply of food to the civil prisoners in the Central Jail at Vellore.

* 572 *Q.*—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the civil prisoners in the Central Jail at Vellore are supplied with food prepared by convicts and served to convicts in the Central Jail; and

(*b*) on whose initiative and for what reasons the food intended for convicts is given to civil debtors in the Central Jail ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" Will the Government be pleased to call for the information as there is much discontent over this matter? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I have called for the information and the answer states that. I do not know why the hon. Member puts a supplementary question without reading the answer already on the paper."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Sir, is the hon. the Law Member right in making such remarks against questions put by hon. Members of the House? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member of Government is quite entitled to call the attention of the hon. Member who is putting the supplementary question to the answer already on paper."

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Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" Sir, the allegation made in the question is a fact; so, when the information is received, will the hon. Member be pleased to see that this state of affairs is put an end to? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" Yes, if necessary."

Depressed Classes

Aid to the Adi-Dravidas in Vishnuvakkam village.

* 573 *Q.*—Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is true that the dwelling houses in the Cheri of Vishnuvakkam village No. 115 of Tiruvallur taluk are submerged in water every year in the rainy season; and

(*b*) what action the Government propose to take to safeguard the lives and huts of the Adi-Dravidas living there?

A.—(*a*) No. On occasions when the tank near the cheri surpluses, some water gets into the streets of the cheri.

(*b*) The Government are informed that the lives of the Adi-Dravidas are in no danger; but the Commissioner of Labour will be asked to see if arrangements can be made to improve the conditions.

Factories

Report by the Commissioner of Labour on the condition of labour prevailing in the beedi factories of Madras.

* 574 *Q.*—Mr. V. T. Arasu: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the late Commissioner of Labour, Mr. Grey, has submitted to Government a report on labour conditions in the beedi factories in the city of Madras; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place it on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Government are unable to place the report on the table of the House.

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" I should like to know from the hon. the Home Member why the Government consider this report confidential? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" Government will have to consider this report along with the Report of the Whitley Commission and until they do so, it is not possible for the Government to place the former on the table of the House."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" In view of the fact that notice has been given of a Bill to regulate the conditions of labour in beedi factories, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to place this report on the table?